

# THE SENTINEL



OFFICIAL SAFETY NEWSLETTER OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

## MD Wing Aircraft Accident

A Maryland Wing C-182R was involved in a hard, night landing at Freeway Airport in Mitchellville, MD on 21 Jul 04. The purpose of the flight was upgrade training in the C-182R and night currency. The Instructor Pilot (IP) is a 43 year-old CFII with 835 flight hours. The student, who was flying at the time of the accident, is a 27 year-old Private Pilot with 143 flight hours. She had previously checked-out in the C-182 with a local flying club where she logged 9.5 hours with 25 takeoffs and landings. The IP stated that the aircraft flared high and stalled above the runway. No one was injured, but the aircraft was substantially damaged. Early assessment of the damage reveals wrinkled skin, damage to the firewall and nose gear assembly, bent prop and main gear spread to the point that the brake assemblies may have contacted the runway! This accident will be investigated by the NTSB, Baltimore FSDO and the MD Wing.



## Landings - By The Numbers

- Landings account for more than a third of all General Aviation (GA) accidents
- Most landing accidents are survivable - only about 1-3% of fatal GA accidents are caused by poor landings.
- Approximately 25% of landing accidents occur during flight instruction.
- Poor landings are responsible for nearly 500 bent GA aircraft per year.
- Landing accidents account for approximately 40% of fixed-gear, single engine accidents.
- 4 out of 6 CAP accidents (66%) this year were landing accidents.
- 3 out of the 4 CAP landing accidents (75%) this year had Certified Flight Instructors (CFIs) on board.

### CAP Safety Metrics

	FY03	FY04
Aircraft Accidents	5	6
Aircraft Incidents	38	25
Fatalities	2	3
Vehicle Mishaps	16	10
Bodily Injuries	13	10
Serious Injuries	2	6

## One More Big Challenge In The 101 Critical Days

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the prosperity and well-being of our country. The Labor Day weekend now, also represents the last long weekend to take a summer vacation. It also marks the end of the "101

**3 out of 4 CAP landing accidents this year had CFIs onboard!**



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Critical Days of Summer” - a historically accident-filled period between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Here’s just a few short reminders to keep this holiday safe:

### **Don’t Speed**

- 66% of crashes on local roads are speed-related.
- Chances of death or serious injury double for every 10 mph over 50 mph a vehicle travels.
- 44% of speed-related fatalities occur on non-interstate roads posted at 55 mph.
- 60% of all speed-related fatal crashes occur at night (6 p.m. to 6 a.m.).
- 66% of speed-related crashes involve a single vehicle.
- Rural roads account for 40% of all vehicle miles traveled, and over 60% of all speed-related fatal crashes.
- Speed-related crashes account for 24% of all fatal crashes on straight roadway sections, but constitute 48% of all fatal crashes occurring on curves.

### **Don’t Drive While Impaired**

***(includes alcohol, drugs, fatigue & anger)***

- Impaired driving kills someone every 30 minutes, nearly 50 per day, and injures someone every two minutes.
- Nearly 18,000 people in the USA die in alcohol-related accidents each year.
- Nearly 1.5 million drivers are arrested annually for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics.
- Nearly two-thirds of children under 15 who die in alcohol-related crashes were riding with the drinking driver.

### **Wear Seat Belts**

- 40,000 people die every year in vehicle accidents. Seat belts could prevent nearly half of these fatalities.
- They protect against three collisions in every crash:
  - The vehicle’s collision as it hits something
  - The human collision with the car or another human
  - The internal collision of organs with the skeletal system or other organs

**Please Drive Defensively**

## **Chemical Weapons At CAP Activities?**

During summer CAP activities, it’s common to leave loaned facilities cleaner than they were before the activity - it’s how you get invited back! However, while scrubbing the place down, senior members and cadets alike should know that mixing common household cleaners can sometimes be deadly. One of the most deadly combinations is bleach mixed with ammonia. This mixture produces a homemade version of chloramine gas, which produces similar affects as phosgene gas, used on the battlefields of World War I. This gas can range from being irritating to being corrosive - it can actually burn membranes and damage your lungs. In less severe cases, these common household products can irritate the muscles of the upper respiratory tract, creating symptoms similar to those of an asthma attack. Symptoms include dizziness and a burning sensation in the lungs. With approximately 2 million accidental poisonings each year, we should pay particular attention to the storage of household chemicals, read and follow label directions and avoid mixing "home brew" cleaning products -- leave this business to professional chemists.

## **Other Safety Meeting Topics**

- **CAP Safety Links** -- <http://level2.cap.gov/index.cfm?nodeID=5328>
- **Barbeque Safety** -- <http://nutrition.about.com/cs/cancer/l/aa052401a.htm>
- **Sun Safety** -- <http://www.aad.org/PressReleases/laborday.html>
- **Boating Safety** -- <http://www.uscgboating.org/>
- **2003 Nall Report FAQs** -- [http://www.aopa.org/asf/nallfaq\\_03.html](http://www.aopa.org/asf/nallfaq_03.html)
- **15 Passenger Van Safety** -- <http://www.citizen.org/autosafety/passengervan/articles.cfm?ID=8917>
- **Preventing Heat-Related Illness** -- <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.asp>
- **Aviation Quotes** -- <http://www.skygod.com/quotes/flyingjokes.html>

**Keep Your Guard Up This Summer**  
**The 101 Critical Days Run Through**  
**Labor Day, 6 September**